

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT A 03555 211323Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-05 AID-05 NSCE-00
SSO-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIE-00
TRSE-00 /085 W

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O P 211250Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6274
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT AU PRINCE 3555

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, PINT, HA
SUBJ: GOVERNMENT TO RELEASE ALL REMAINING POLITICAL PRISONERS

1. THE GOVERNMENT OF HAITI INTENDS TO RELEASE ALL 104
REMAINING POLITICAL PRISONERS ON SEPTEMBER 21 ACCORDING TO
INTERIOR MINISTER AURELIEN JEANTY. JEANTY CONVEYED THIS
INFORMATION TO FRENCH AMBASSADOR DEBLE THIS MORNING (SEPTEMBER 20) WHEN HE TOLD DEBLE THAT GOH INTENDED TO EXILE 12
OF THE GROUP WHO HAD NEVER BEEN TRIED BUT WERE GUILTY OF
"SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES" AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT. (OUR INFORMATION INDICATES THAT MOST OF THE 12 ARE BELIEVED BY GOH
TO BE PLOTTING AGAINST IT OR TO HAVE HAD COMMUNIST AFFILIATIONS).

2. DEBLE REMINDED JEANTY OF FRENCH GOVERNMENT DISPLEASURE
WHEN 8 POLITICAL PRISONERS WERE SIMILARLY EXILED TO FRANCE
LAST DECEMBER WITHOUT ANY ADVANCE NOTICE. FRENCH SUBSEQUENTLY
THREATENED TO ABROGATE VISA FREE TRAVEL BETWEEN HAITI AND
FRANCE IF GOH AGAIN TOOK SIMILAR ADVANTAGE OF THIS ACCORD.
JEANTY PROVIDED NO DETAILS ON THE 12 NAMES AND DEBLE HAS
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CABLED PARIS FOR INSTRUCTIONS. HAITIANS PLAN TO HAVE 12
DEPART REGULAR AIR FRANCE FLIGHT AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 21 WHICH
ARRIVES IN PARIS SEPTEMBER 22.

3. NAMES FURNISHED TO DEBLE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1) RICHE ANDRIS

- 2) MAX BOURJOLLY
- 3) CLAUDE BERNARD CRAAN
- 4) ALIX FILS-AIME
- 5) EMMANUEL FREDERICK
- 6) MILO GOUSSE
- 7) JEAN JULME
- 8) PATRICK LEMOINE
- 9) MARC ANTOINE MARSAN
- 10) MARC ROMULUS
- 11) JOSEPH RONEY
- 12) ANDRE SERAPHIN

4. EMBASSY CAN IDENTIFY ALL EXCEPT MARSAN. SIX NAMES (CRAAN, FILS-AIME, GOUSSE, LEMOINE, ROMULUS, AND SERAPHIN) WERE INCLUDED IN AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S AUGUST 15 LETTER TO PRESIDENT DUVALIER (BRIDGETOWN 1934). OTHER NAMES IN YOUNG'S LETTER MAY BE INCLUDED AMONG LIST OF REMAINING 92. JULME IS A FORMER MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR UNDER FRANCOIS DUVALIER WHO WAS RELEASED IN DECEMBER 1976 BUT, ACCORDING TO JEANTY'S ADMISSION, REARRESTED SEVERAL MONTHS LATER. BOURJOLLY AND FREDERICK WERE ARRESTED IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AUGUST 17, 1976 AND TURNED OVER TO THE GOH SHORTLY THEREAFTER. ACCORDING TO DEBLE THESE TWO HAVE BEST CLAIM TO ASYLUM IN FRANCE BECAUSE THEY HAVE LIVED THERE IN THE PAST. BOURJOLLY, IN FACT, HAS TWO DAUGHTERS BY HIS LIAISON WITH MADAME ESTELLE LEICHTER, SECRETARY TO THE COMMUNIST GROUP IN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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FRENCH SENATE. DEBLE ALSO MADE A DEMARCHE TO THE HAITIANS SOME MONTHS AGON REGARDING BOURJOLLY AND FREDERICK AT THE REQUEST OF TWO FRENCH SENATORS. WE NOTE THAT TWO OF 12 (FILS-AIME AND LEMOINE) HAVE US CITIZEN MOTHERS AND WERE FOMER PERMANENT RESIDENTS THEMSELVES. BOTH WILL PROBABLY SEEK TO ENTER US AFTER THEY REACH FRANCE. ROMULUS HAS WIFE AND CHILDREN IN CANADA. RICHE ANDRIS (AKA ANDRIS RICHE) WAS ONCE ASSOCIATED WITH CHURCH WORLD SERVICES IN HAITI.

5. COMMENT. THE IMPENDING RELEASE IS TO BE MADE ON THE EVE OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF FRANCOIS DUVALIER'S ELECTION AS PRESIDENT OF HAITI. THE GOVERNMENT IS LIKELY TO PORTRAY THE RELEASE AS A DEMONSTRATION THAT THE "POLITICAL PHASE" OF THE DUVALIERIST "REVOLUTION" IS OVER AND CALL ON ALL HAITIANS OF GOOD WILL TO WORK FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR COUNTRY.

6. IF THE RELEASE IS ANNOUNCED AS ANTICIPATED IT WILL MARK ANOTHER MAJOR STEP FORWARD IN HAITI'S OBSERVANCE OF INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS OF HUMAN RIGHTS. THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT EXPECTED TO GIVE AN ACCOUNTING OF THE HUNDREDS OF PERSONS MISSING OVER THE LAST 20 YEARS AND,

INSOFAR AS IT IS EXPLICITLY STATED, AN ASSERTION THAT THERE
ARE NO MORE PRISONERS WILL DISAPPOINT THE THOUSANDS OF
RELATIVES WHO HAVE HOPED FOR YEARS FOR SOME DEFINITE NEWS.

7. EMBASSY WILL REPORT FURTHER DETAILS AS SOON AS THEY ARE
AVAILABLE.
JONES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: N/A
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